

Disabled golfers take 'first swing' H'RONTLINE

See Page 1C

3rd ID celebrates 92nd birthday



J. Elise Van Pool, Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashmen, 3rd ID Command Sergeant Major-rear (left) and Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Phillips, 3rd ID Deputy Commanding General-rear (far right) cut the 3rd ID birthday cake with the oldest and youngest 3rd ID enlisted Soldiers in garrison, Sgt. 1st Class Eduardo Gaborno and Pvt. Johnathan Rogers at the Marne Division's 92nd birthday celebration in the headquarters building, November 20.

TF Marne marks celebration with 'Patch Ceremony'

Sqt. Johnathon Jobson Task Force Marne Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY **OPERATING BASE** SPEICHER, Iraq -Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division honored its 92 years of service to the nation by recognizing combat service through a traditional "Patch Ceremony," on Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Nov. 21.

Combat veterans and first-time deployers were the honorees during the ceremony. The Marne patch was even affixed to the right sleeve of Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, with his 30 years of service, along with deputy commanding generals Brig. Gen. Patrick Donohue and Brig. Gen. Tom Vandal.

The wearing of patches, officially known as "Shoulder Sleeve Insignia -FormerWartimeService" is to denote Soldiers who have participated in combat operations. It dates back to World War I, when it was worn to boost unit morale and show pride in the Soldier's unit.

"It's not just a patch; it's not just covering the fuzz on your right shoulder," said Maj. Gen. Cucolo, the 3rd ID and Task Force Marne commanding general. "It is the 3rd Infantry Division patch, and you ought to be proud you get to wear it. Sure, you deserve it, but you need to feel honored and proud you get to wear one."

See PATCH Page 4A

LTF teaches Division language, culture

Jessica Obermeyer Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Whether visiting another

country for pleasure or deploying overseas to complete a mission, understanding a foreign country's language and culture can go a long way to improve relationships with foreign nationals.

The Language Training Facility, which recently moved to its new location on Fort Stewart across from the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team's Dining Facility, seeks to bridge the culture gap through its Arabic language and Iraqi cultural awareness courses.

Before the construction of the LTF's new facility, the instructors went to the units to teach the courses. They still offer mobile transition teams that train in the unit's facilities.

See LANGUAGE -Page 4A

Soldiers, Family Members cut ribbon on new CDC

J. Elise Van Pool Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Soldiers, Family Members,

and Army Civilians gathered to celebrate the opening of the newest child development center on Fort Stewart, Nov. 20. The new center will care for 244 of the Army's youngest Family Members, who range in age from six weeks to five years old.

See CDC Page 10A

FA leaders apply Civil War lessons to today's fight

Staff Sgt. Tanya Polk 4th IBCT Public Affairs

Senior leaders of the 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, took a trip back in time to 1862 with a staff ride to the Fort Pulaski National Monument, Nov. 20.

More than just a history lesson of the Civil War era, Battle of Fort Pulaski, the staff ride provided a venue for the battalion's leader professional development pro-

"We're here today to discuss

the way military operations were conducted in the past and apply those lessons learned to today's battlefield," said 1/76 FA Commander, Lt. Col. Ryan LaPorte, adding that field artillerymen played an important role during the Battle of Fort Pulaski.

During the visit, the leaders discussed historical events involving the fort located between Savannah and Tybee Island, Ga., everything from its construction to Soldiers' quality of life to the 30 hours of bombardment that began April 10, 1862.

Page 10A See LESSONS

Safety Expo preps community for safer, happier holidays

Randy Murray

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

The Holiday Season is a time when Soldiers and Family Members gather with loved ones in their homes or restaurants, or they travel across the country to see them. With these celebrations and travel in mind, the Installation Safety Office conducted a Holiday Safety Expo to remind the community of the inherent risks associated with holiday celebrations,

According to Chris McCormick, Fort Stewart safety specialist, the holiday season is historically the most dangerous times of the year. Driving risks are probably the most obvious, due to drinking and driving, driving in hazardous weather and fatigued driving. The safety expo included a trailer ran by MPRI team members that contained two driving simulators, which gave Soldiers an opportunity to experience various driving conditions.

See SAFETY Page 5A

Fallen Soldier honored at Warriors Walk



Jennifer Hartwig, Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Caroline Rudzinski, wife of Staff Sgt. Christopher M. Rudzinski, accepts the marker cover from ceremony unveiler, Sgt. 1st Class Philip Joseph Casiano, 385th MP Bn., after he unveiled the granite stone marking the 421st tree at Warriors Walk, in honor of Staff Sgt. Rudzinski, who was killed in Afghanistan in October, at the Tree Dedication Ceremony, Nov. 19. With Caroline is her escort, Staff Sgt. Lawrence Divine, 385th MP Bn. See Story Page 9A

Mail your packages in time for holidays See Page 10A

Holiday Safety Series: Fire Prevention See Page 5A

Tree Lighting ceremonies slated See Page 1B



Happy Thanksgiving

3rd ID DCG-R: Be thankful for our lives well spent

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Phillips3rd ID Deputy Commanding
General-Rear

I wish you and your Families a safe and joyful Thanksgiving, the time of year when we think about and give thanks for our blessings.

Many of us will share Thanksgiving this year with our comrades – our military Families – because of deployments and other reasons associated with the defense of our nation. What better time than such a separation to reflect on how grateful we are for Families, relationships and friends?

Good food facilitates reflection, so on Thursday consider coming by the Rangers' dining facility at Hunter Army Airfield, in building 110; or the Raider Brigade's dining facility, building 642. You will be greeted with a magnificent Thanksgiving feast. This Thanksgiving, I give special thanks for the honor of serving with Soldiers who, like generations of Americans before you, travel to lands you've never seen, defend people you do not know, fight for no bounty of your own, and leave freedom in your footsteps.

Take a moment to remember those who, making that

journey, have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, and also remember their Families. Be thankful for such men and women!

As we serve the nation, we should all be grateful for the support of a great partnership: our Families and our community neighbors to the east, west, north and south. Who in uniform or what spouse who counts a Soldier in the Family, has not given thanks for the sturdy friendship of our neighbors, the support of our veterans? They lift us up as heroes, celebrate our victories, mourn with us our losses, share with us this good earth on which we live and train and raise children. We don't Soldier alone, do we?

I am thankful as well for our DoD Civilians and Family Members, for the selfless service, dedication and sacrifices made while supporting Team Marne, our installations, and our Army.

Last Saturday was the Marne Division's birthday, marking a 92-year-old legacy built with honor – and honor comes in individual actions: one yard taken, one life sacrificed, one rest refused.

And with honor, we are again engaged in the fight for freedom; what we are doing matters

Perhaps the value of our present sacrifice must wait for a future measure to tell its true worth. But we have only to look to the perils and triumphs of our past to know that the dignity of freedom calls everlastingly for the best in us.

And the best can indeed be a hard thing. Yet we Americans know, it is worth it.

So let me suggest that the happy occasion of Thanksgiving is also a fitting occasion to reflect on all these things. It is a moment to treasure them and to know that this is our lives, spent well. It is a moment to be glad that we are making this journey together, each giving the best of oneself, and all traveling a worthy path with good friends.

From the CSMs Desks Price is high to drink and drive

Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin Garrison Command Sergeant Major

The holiday season is supposed to be a time for Family, friends and festive celebrations. Unfortunately, it is also a time when there is a tragic jump in the number of alcohol-related highway fatalities each year between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

The garrison commander and I are joining with other national, state and local highway safety and law enforcement officials to remind you to always designate a sober driver before each holiday party or event involving alcohol.

Nationally, more than 11,700 people died in alcohol-related highway crashes during 2008, and countless others lost careers and Families because they did not discipline their handling of alcohol.

Every 30 minutes, nearly 50 times a

day, someone in America dies in an alcohol-related crash. Hundreds of thousands more are injured each year. According to the national highway Traffic Safety Administration, about three in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives. The commander and I are counting on you to not be one of those victims.

Remembering to designate a sober driver before the party begins is just one of several simple steps to help avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving during the holiday season. Here are some other tips and reminders to help you and yours make it through the holidays:

• Never get behind the wheel of your vehicle if you've been out drinking.



• If impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit if available, or call a sober friend or Family member or even your first sergeant to come and get you:

• Or, just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober.

• If you are hosting a party this holiday season, remind your guests to always

plan ahead to designate a sober driver, always offer alcohol-free beverages during the event, and make sure all of your guests leave with a sober driver.

• *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk* – take the keys and never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired.

The President of the United States has proclaimed December "National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month,"

to help underscore the public's commitment to preventing impaired driving and promoting the use of designated drivers and sober-ride programs. December and New Year's Eve holiday are also often highlighted by significant increases in state and local law enforcement efforts to combat impaired driving such as the use of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols.

Driving impaired or riding with someone who is impaired is simply not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be really significant and not the way you want to spend your holiday season.

The commander and I want you to enjoy the holidays – but, please return with your life and career intact. Happy Thanksgiving!

PATCH

Sitting in the audience waiting for their part to take place were Soldiers who arrived in Iraq to take out a dictator and now they are back for a fourth time to hand over operations to the Iraqis. Four-time 3rd ID deployers affixed the Marne patch on the sleeves of first-time deployers.

"It was the first time I have ever patched someone," said Warrant Officer Robert Streeper, the Air Movement Request officer-in-charge with the TF Marne G3 (Operations) Air section. "It felt good to be recognized, especially by people who have not been over here before, and to be out in front of my peers while doing it."

During World War I, a small group came up with the Marne patch idea - three white lines on a blue field.

"We had completed our stand on the Marne River, earning our nickname; had two Medal of Honor recipients; participated in three major campaigns; more than 3,500 were killed and more than 12,000 wounded," explained Maj. Gen Cucolo. "A symbol for that effort and sacrifice was important."

The three lines stand for the major operations in which the division participated in during World War I. The blue field symbolizes American valor, the same as the blue field on the American flag; instead of stars there are the three stripes, Maj. Gen. Cucolo explained.

For the Soldiers on their first deployment, receiving the combat patch was a very humbling experience.

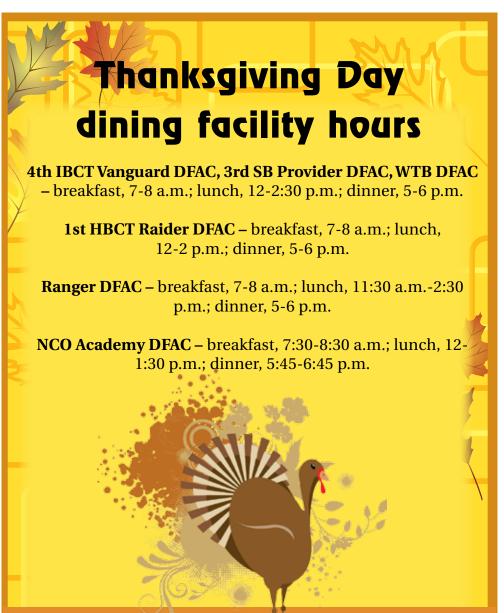
"I am excited to be with the 3rd Infantry Division. My dad served with them in Germany before I was born, so it's pretty cool to continue our Family legacy a little bit," said Spc. Abigail Waldrop, a broadcaster for TF Marne Public Affairs. "The 3rd Infantry Division has accomplished so much in its history. To be a part of its mission now is really an honor and I'm proud to be able to wear the Marne patch."



Sgt. Johnathon Jobso

from Page 1A

The 3rd ID and Task Force Marne senior enlisted advisor, Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews, places the Marne patch on Staff Sgt. Roderick Reeves, the automations NCOIC of the Special Troops Battalion S-6 (Information Technology) at the Marne Patch Ceremony, Nov. 21.





Marne Voice asks:

hat are you thankful fo



'God, my Family and for allowing me to make it this far so that I can retire in February after 22 years."

Sgt. 1st Class Cecil Barnes Stewart-Hunter garrison



"I am thankful for the deployed Soldiers protecting our freedom; for my wife, our son, our extended Family and our health.'

> Capt. Christian Nelson **MEDDAC**

"I am thankful for my wife and kids, because without Family, you aren't anything.'

> Spc. Randy Johnson A Co. 2/7 Inf.



"My wife who is so awesome

and caring; life in a great

country and for all those who

Sgt. George Peterson

92nd Engineers

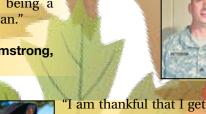
'I am thankful for my Family, friends and battle buddies who will watch my back."

Spc. Khemera Sam A Co., 2/7 Inf.



am thankful for being able to serve for 25 years. I <mark>like being a Soldier. I am</mark> also thankful for being a born-again Christian."

Maj. Sherman Armstrong, HHC, 1st HBCT



I am thankful that I get to go home for Thanksgiving and see my Family and my daughter."

Pfc. Walter Kelly HHB, 1/41 FA



'I am grateful for the opportunity to serve my country, for good health, and the opportunity to <mark>enjoy the holidays</mark> with my Family."

Sgt. Claudio Delgado **MEDDAC**



"I'm thankful I have a stable job in a depreciating economy."

Spc. Thomas Ellis A Co., 2/7 Inf.



"I am thankful for Tony Romo not throwing an interception against the Packers, being able to go on le<mark>ave, my fellow Soldiers, and</mark> my great leadership.."

Spc. Austin Cox HHC, 3/69 Armor

serve."



"I am thankful for my son, and that my mom did well with her heart surgery."

Staff Sgt. Michael Vick HHC, 1st HBCT

"Thankful for servicemembers who support our liberty. Also, my wife and three kids and my coworkers who help me support Soldiers in this community.

> **Derrick Futrell** Army Civilian



the people I work with. Also, the good fortune the Marine Corps has given me. I'm thankful that in the U.S., we have a

"My health, wife and daughter and all

Gunnery Sgt. Dustan Griffin 2nd BTO Co., USMC Reserve, Hunter



Nisha Giustino Army Civilian





'I am thankful for block leave, my parents who paid for plane tickets, my beloved wife and her endurance in the trials of my Army career."

Pfc. Jeremiah Jensen HHC, 1st HBCT

I am thankful that I get to go to Iraq and do good things for people, my wife, and the support I get from my Family."

> Spc. Luis Garcia A Co., 1-3 BSTB



"I am thankful for my fiancé, Alex Mason, and my Family."

> Pfc. Tom Evans A Co., 2/7 Inf.



"I am thankful for my God, my Family and friends. I am thankful for the support that the surrounding communities give to the Soldiers here on Fort Stewart."

> Staff Sgt. Shron Gilbert **MEDDAC**



I'm thankful for my

Family."

Sherron Walker The Frontline

"I'm thankful for my growing Family."





'I'm thankful to have my Family and friends near."

Jessica Obermeyer The Frontline



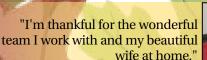
Florence Newman Marne TV





'I'm thankful for my wonderful husband and our beautiful baby girl."

Jennifer Hartwig The Frontline





The Frontline & Marne TV staff are thankful for your continued support. Happy Thanksgiving!

IMCOM CG: Celebrate with safety, others in mind

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch IMCOM Commander

Each November, Americans gather with Family and friends to give thanks for the many blessings they enjoy as citizens of this great land. This Thanksgiving Day will be particularly poignant for the many thousands of Soldiers serving in harm's way and their Families. As you celebrate in gratitude, let us recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of our war-fighters ensuring our security and freedom.

Although a time of joy and goodwill, this season brings particular hazards

that can be unforgiving to the unprepared. Now is a good time to remind ourselves how to reduce the risks of driving in winter conditions, hunting, home fires, home decorations and electrical conditions, ice or snow-covered walkways, etc. Find information on these and other timely safety topics in the IMCOM Fall Winter Safety Brochure at

www.imcom.army.mil/hq/officecom/ staff/safety. Please exercise caution, because winter weather and heavy traf-



fic may complicate your plans. Getting there is more important than getting there on time. Use the Travel Risk Planning System (TRiPs) at http://combatingaggressivedriving.com/ trip%20planning.html to identify traveling risks and help reduce or eliminate the chance of an accident while traveling over the holiday months.

Finally, be vigilant for signs of distress among those around you. Be mindful of those for whom this season can be stressful and offer assistance or referrals as appropriate. Chaplains, counselors and the chain of command all have resources to help the needy or overwhelmed. We are blessed to live in a nation that values freedom and the sanctity of life. This Thanksgiving Day regardless of your holiday plans, please be aware of the hazards, take action to guard against them, and execute good safety practices. You are too important to the IMCOM Family and to your own Families to fall victim to a preventable accident.

Support and Defend!

Compensation aids Soldiers following trauma

Jessica Obermeyer

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

In December of 2005, Congress introduced a mandate to provide compensation to servicemembers who have suffered a loss due to a traumatic event.

Traumatic Servicemembers Group Insurance is a rider Servicemembers Life Group Insurance, an insurance program set up to assist Families of fallen Soldiers. The compensation awards servicemembers anywhere from \$25,000-100,000 to assist Families as they transition after a traumatic event, said Master Sgt. Ira Turner, TSGLI and Combat-Related Special Compensation advocate at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield.

TSGLI is available to members of all service branches. National Guard and Reserve servicemembers are also eligible and do not need to be on orders or at their monthly battle assemblies.

TSGLI is not only for wounded warriors, said Master Sgt. Turner. It covers any tramautic event and is broken down into two different categories.

Retroactive TSGLI covers injuries sustained by a servicemember between Oct. 7, 2001 and Nov. 30, 2005 that occur in a combat tax exclusion zone. The servicemember does not need to still be serving. Even if a servicemember is retired, they can still file a claim. To receive retroactive TSGLI, the servicemember does not need to have SGLI.

The other category, proactive TSGLI, covers traumatic events that occur from Dec. 1, 2005 to the present. To receive TSGLI during this time period, the servicemembers must have SGLI. If a servicemember has SGLI, TSGLI is automatically included. To receive prospective TSGLI the traumatic event does not have to occur during combat.

"A traumatic event is any outside force that effects the living body," said Master Sgt. Turner. "This can include improvised explosive device, rocket propelled grenade, motorcycle or car accident, training accident, or a sporting accident. It does not have to be combat-related or in a combat-related environment.'

If a servicemember has a traumatic event and survives seven days prior to passing away, their beneficiaries can claim TSGLI on their behalf, without affecting their SGLI benefits, said Master Sgt. Turner. If a servicemember suffers two injuries outside of a seven day period, two separate claims can be filed. Servicemembers have 730 days from the dates of the traumatic event to file a claim.

"TSGLI is not a payment plan," said Master Sgt. Turner. "It is a one-time payment to assist servicemembers and Families while they are going through the transition period after a traumatic event."

To receive TSGLI, the servicemember must complete a two-part application process. The servicemember must submit supporting medical documents and the medical provider must certify that the servicemember has suffered a loss.

Covered losses range from amputa-

tion, loss of sight, loss of hearing, speech, paralysis, coma, or burns over 30 percent of the full thickness of the face or body.

"The loss can also include the loss of two of the six activities of daily living: eating; bathing; dressing; toileting; control of continence; or the ability to get in and out of bed without physical, verbal or standby assistance," said Master Sgt.

In December 2008, TSGLI added several conditions to the list of eligible traumatic events. If a servicemember and their surgeon decide to salvage a limb rather than amputate or if a servicemember undergoes facial reconstruction due to loss from a traumatic event, the servicemember is eligible to receive TSGLI. Servicemembers who spend 15 days or more in the hospital after a traumatic event are automatically eligible for \$25,000. In all three of these cases, the servicemember is still required to file for the compensation.

While TSGLI does include many different types of traumatic events, including combat and non-combat-related injuries, the compensation does not cover mental illness, internal illness, or posttraumatic stress disorder.

The applicant must provide documents to substantiate the injury being claimed, which may include occupational or physical therapy report, neurology report if claiming traumatic brain injury, nurses notes from hospital, report for amputations, hearing test results, speech test results, discharge summary, medical summary history, patient movement report, accident report, line of duty report, and the physical and medical evaluation board report. Once a claim has been filed, the ser-

vicemember will receive email notification that application has been received. Then, within 30 days they will be notified by TSGLI, whether the claim has been approved or not.

If a servicemember has been denied, he or she has three opportunities to

"They can talk to me about the appeals process," said Master Sgt. Turner. "A servicemember may be denied due to lack of supporting documents, or their injury may not be considered a traumatic event."

Master Sergeant Turner is availale to answer questions, assist servicemembers in identifying which documents are needed and help file their claim.

"I want servicemembers to know that I am their advocate, and I am here to help all of them," said Master Sgt. Turner. "All Soldiers are covered as long as they have SGLI. No one is denied the opportunity to file a claim; no one should tell a servicemember that they are not eligible that is a decision that has to be made by TSGLI."

For more information or to file a claim, contact Master Sgt. Ira Turner at (912) 767 3370 or (571) 2893052. Master Sergeant Turner is located in the SFAC, building 12719 (777 East 10th Street, behind the WTU Shoppette). For more information on the program, visit www. TSGLI.army.mil.

LANGUAGE

Sergeant Paul Lucas, a linguist trained through the Defense Language Institute, teaches Survival Iraq, an Iraqi cultural awareness program, at the LTF.

The Survival Iraqi course is a one or two week course, depending on the availability of the Soldiers and how long commanders allow Soldiers to be outside of their units.

During this time, students are in the classroom for eight hours a day.

"This course also helps Soldiers learn how to use an interpreter and improve their working relationship," said Sgt. Lucas. "I lived with Iraqi culture, and I have first-hand relationship with Iraqis."

Sergeant Lucas who was used as an interpreter during his deployment to Iraq used his experiences overseas to help his students understand the benefits of working to learn more about the Iraqi culture.

"I learned how to deal with people and how to stay away from taboos and build relationships with Iraqis. This can be very useful in developing relationships with coalition forces."

Hany Moussa, a native Egyptian, teaches Modern Standard Arabic, Iraqi dialect, Survival Iraqi, and Arab culture as well as his mother-tongue dialect at LTF. The Modern Standard Arabic class also requires an eight hour day requirement and runs for four to six weeks.

"Because he is Arab, he has a more expansive idea of Arabic culture," said Sgt. Lucas. "He is able to go more in depth into Islam and some other aspects of Arabic culture."

The LTF offers a variety of courses. For trained linguists, LTF can provide refresher courses that prepare them for their annual exams.

"We retrain linguists and keep them fresh on their language skills so that they can take the yearly Defense Language Test to keep current and keep pay coming in for their language skills," said Sgt. Lucas.

The training facility also offers other dialects such as Pashtu and Dari, which are the key languages in Afghanistan. In addition to its refresher courses, LTF trains non-linguists who wish to learn a new dialect in preparation for their upcoming deployment.

"We start from scratch," said Moussa. "We build the students one by one, so they can be familiar with the language and make their own sentences so they can use it later. Students have to know how to use it first. That's why we teach them grammar and basics.

While Survival Iraqi is a DLI produced course, LTF develops much of its own material.

"Hany and I have developed a more complete language program," said Sgt. Lucas. "Students can not only learn rote memorization, but also can actually learn the language, learn the alphabet, create sentences. That's our goal here.

The LTF is made up of three classrooms for group instruction as well as computer work stations for individual studying.

"We have computers set up for linguists who are trained and non-linguists who are learning Iraqi dialects, Dari, Pashtu, other languages like that," said Sgt. Lucas "They can get on the computers and enhance their language skills through the computer programs and both myself and Hani are there to help if they have questions."

In addition to the computer programs, the instructors provide other resources to enhance their student's skills.

Satellite language channels, magazines, newspapers, and books help to improve students' listening and speaking skills.

Understanding the Iraqi culture is important for maintaining relations and avoiding miscommunication while deployed said Moussa and Sgt. Lucas.

"We are able to teach students to better understand where their interpreter was coming from," said Sgt.

3RD INFANTRY DIVISION COMMANDER MAJ. GEN. TONY CUCOLO

3RD INF. DIV. DEP. CMD. GEN. REAR, SR. CMDR. FS/HAAF BRIG. GEN. JEFFREY E. PHILLIPS USAG FS/HAAF CMDR COL. KEVIN W. MILTON

HUNTER AAF CMDR LT. COL. JOSE L. AGUILAR

Lucas. "For example, why it is so important to have false name to protect their family, better understanding of their culture, which taboos to stay away from?"

from Page 1A

"You don't want to offend someone, for example, an Iraqi official," said Moussa. "It takes a long time to build those relations back up.'

While the LTF primarily serves the 3rd ID, Sgt. Lucas and Moussa said that the division plans on expanding the facility to make it a regional language training facility that will teach the culture and other classes that will help prepare Soldiers before deployment.

"Most units require a culture course, not necessarily the language course, which we can provide," said Sgt. Lucas. "This helps to ease burden on units of finding someone to teach the course. Now we can do that right here for the units. We are very happy about that."

For Soldiers wishing to attend a language course Sgt. Lucas recommends that they get in touch with their S-2 (Intelligence) shop.

For more information or to sign up for an individual study program, contact Sgt. Paul Lucas, 3rd ID Language Training Facility Noncommissioned officer in charge at his office, (912) 435-0822; or mobile phone (608) 387-4251; email: paul.d.lucas@us.army.mil.

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Holiday Safety: Fire safety precautions

Stephen W. Podmore

Directorate of Emergency Services

The six-week holiday season that begins with Thanksgiving weekend is historically the most dangersous time of the year. Consider these safety tips and have a safe, happy holiday.

Christmas trees

When choosing a live Christmas tree, buy a fresh tree. Never buy a bundled tree. Do a bump test – run your hands down the limbs to see if the needles fall off. Bend the needles; they should bend back. After bringing your tree home, make a fresh diagonal cut 1 to 2 inches from the base. Add 2 aspirin to the water every three days to keep your tree fresh and fire resistant. You may also dissolve one-half cup of sugar to one gallon of water. Always keep your tree stand full of water and away from heat sources.

Holiday lights

Do not mix and match Christmas lights. All lights should be of the same

type and size. Check the light bulbs, sockets, wires and plugs for cracks, broken or frayed wires. Replace any broken, frayed or missing parts. Never bypass a fuse. Test each strand by plugging it in for 10-15 minutes to make sure the lights don't melt or smoke. Always use a power strip or surge protector to plug your lights into. Do not connect more than three strands to one power strip. Do not overload electrical outlets by using adapters. Never run electrical cords under carpet or rugs or through metal windows or doors. Always unplug all decorations inside and out before leaving home or going to bed.

Decorations

Choose decorations and ornaments that are non-toxic, especially if you have small children or pets. Avoid using metal garland or synthetic compounds that may conduct electricity. Use only UL listed decorations – the green UL tag is suitable only for indoor use; the red UL tag may be used indoors or out.

Ladder

Use the appropriate ladder when putting up decorations. Make sure that it is placed on solid ground and have someone secure it or tie it to the structure. Watch for overhead obstructions and power lines. Wear shoes with slip-resistant soles and only one person on the ladder at a time. Always face the ladder when ascending or descending. Do not stand on the top four rungs of an extension ladder or top two rungs of a step ladder. Have someone remain outside with you while you are on the ladder.

Open Flame Hazards

Keep your fireplace area free of combustibles and always use a fire screen. Keep your chimney flu clean and have a professional inspect it annually. Do not burn wrapping materials in a fireplace. Use kindling and wooden matches to light a fire, not flammable liquid. Keep candles, yule logs, menorahs, etc., high up on a non-combustible surface that is away from curtains or draperies.

Ensure that your fire is completely out before going to bed. Never place lit candles on a tree or other combustible decorations. Remember to warn children about the dangers of matches, candles and any other type of open flame. Make sure that you have ULapproved carbon monoxide detectors in your home if you have a gas fireplace, woodstove or furnace.

Smoke detectors, fire extinguishers

Test all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors at least monthly, if not weekly. Replace the batteries annually. Keep a 2.5 pound ABC fire extinguisher on hand.

Ensure that it is maintained and everyone in the household knows how to use it. Think about giving carbon monoxide/smoke detectors or fire extinguishers as a more practical gift.

If you do give them as gifts, offer to place and mount them in the proper locations.

Next Week: Holiday safety on the road.

from Page 1A

SAFETY

Specialist Rebecca Thomas, 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, attempted to drive the simulator while being coached by MPRI team member Joe Fernandez. The simulator allowed her to crash without the risks associated with a real accident.

Across the motorcycle training lot, James L. Jones, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security's Virtual Training Branch, attempted to walk a



Randy Murray

Joe Fernandez, MPRI team member, coaches Spc. Rebecca Thomas, 87th CSSB, as she attempts to drive a driving simulator in a variety of weather conditions during the Installation Safety Office's Holiday Safety Expo, Nov. 20.

straight line while wearing special intoxication goggles that allowed him to see through "intoxicated" eyes. Bill Kilmer, Army Substance Abuse Program, tried to coach Jones without laughing because Jones thought he was walking straight but was nearly a foot off to one side of the line. Kilmer's office also ran a go-cart course that allowed drivers to attempt to negotiate rows of safety cones while wearing the intoxication goggles.

The South Caroline Highway Patrol was at the safety expo with a rollover simulator. Lance Corporal Scott Edgeworth operated the simulator, which represented a full-size pickup that was set to roll over at about 15 mph with an adult dummy driver wearing a seatbelt and a child dummy passenger wearing no seatbelt. By the second rollover, the child dummy was falling out the open window, but the driver was held safely in place.

"The three greatest killers on the highways are speed, alcohol and no seat belt," Lance Cpl. Edgeworth explained. "You're seven times more likely to die if you're ejected from a vehicle during a rollover situation. Moms who've observed the simulator are usually surprised at how easily

the unrestrained child dummy is thrown from the vehicle."

Sergeant Kelley Hughes, South Sarolina Highway Patrol, said his department was able to get the simulator through a federal government grant. He said a study by a South Carolina university determined the majority of single vehicle fatalities in his state occurred from rollovers involving white males who were not wearing a seatbelt. The simulator is requested by a lot of communities for safety demonstrations, Sgt. Hughes said.

In addition to booths ran by Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers, the Directorate of Emergency Services Conservation Law Enforcement, information on motorcycle safety and a booth warning Soldiers and hunters about unexploded ordnances in training areas, a giant screen television displayed safety messages about how to select and care for your Christmas tree, to include a demonstration of how quickly a tree can catch on fire. There was also a message about the hazards of deep frying a turkey.

McCormick said the purpose of the safety expo was to give Soldiers and Family Members a hands-on opportunity to learn about risks that could ruin their holiday and encourage everyone to put safety first this year.



THE FRONTLINE

Now Available At

<u>Glennville</u>

Piggly Wiggly 312 South Main

Midway

Clyde's Market 11286 E. Oglethorpe Hwy

> Midway Station 27 S. Coastal Hwy

Richmond Hill

Clyde's Market Hwy 17 & Ford Ave., (Hwy 144)

> Harvey's Ford Plaza 2451 US Highway 17

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

TF Marne thankful for Family

Spc. Michael Adams

Task Force Marne Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER,

Iraq - Thanksgiving is a time for Families to be together, but when Soldiers can't be with their Families in America, they can eat a Thanksgiving feast with their brothers and sisters at arms.

Sergeant Jason Snyder, a Homeworth, Ohio, native and food service noncommissioned officer with Task Force Marne, is doing his part to bring the men and women in uniform stationed on Contingency Operating Base Speicher a feast like the one they would share with their loved ones in the states.



Photos by Spc. Michael Adams

A TF Marne food service specialist puts the finishing touches on Thanksgiving day cake at the Marne Dining Facility.

"We're going to have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner - turkey, potatoes, stuffing, ham, all of the traditional dishes everybody would get back home," Sgt. Snyder said. "We're working on a lot of decorations and ice sculptures to spruce up the dining facility to make it look nice.'

For Sgt. Snyder and the Soldiers who work in the dining facility, preparing the food and keeping the facility ready for the many hungry servicemembers who go there for both regular meals and holidays is more than just a job. They take pride in what they do on a daily basis. They know Soldiers miss home this time of year and they want to go a little further to put Soldiers in a good mood. During the holiday

season, the Soldiers at the Main DFAC are proud of what they do to put their section of COB Speicher in the holiday spirit. "We love it," said Sgt.

Snyder. "We absolutely enjoy the fact that maybe we can give a little taste of home to some of these Soldiers who are here, so far away from home. We'll give them cheerful greetings make this a place where they can relax and forget they're in deployment for a little

Specialist Tangi Allen, a Columbia, S.C., native and food service specialist with TF Marne, said the reason they work so



Sergeant Jason Snyder, a TF Marne food service specialist, hangs Thanksgiving decorations at the Marne Dining Facility at COB Speicher.

hard is to boost the morale of the Soldiers they serve on a daily basis. The reason her section is so motivated to help the Soldiers is because of how close the section is, as most of the Soldiers have deployed

"I left a Family to be with another Family," she said. "I'm going to feel right at home during this deployment."

1st HBCT cooks fight elements, other obstacles to keep Soldiers in the fight

Spc. Jared S. Eastman 1st HBCT Public Affairs

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - At the National Training Center in the Mojave Desert, little can be seen at 2 a.m. except lights in the distance. In the new Containerized Kitchen and the old Mobile Kitchen Trailer on Forward Operating Base King, however, the sound of clattering pans and the smell of cooking meat fills the air. The cooks of 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team are hard at work even at this early hour, cooking to feed 1,400 Soldiers come sunrise. They prepare Soldiers for a day of hard training throughout all of 1st HBCT's NTC rotation.

"My job is to feed the Soldiers on FOB King and provide nutritionally-balanced meals for approximately 1,400 Soldiers per day," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Isaza, 1st HBCT Food Service noncommissioned officer. "This is a little different than back home because we don't serve lunch, but also the weather conditions and the sand make it a little more of a challenge. Overall the objective remains the same - to feed Soldiers the best we can."

But feeding all the Soldiers on FOB King requires hours of cooking in order to provide the best possible meal.

"Our Soldiers are working between 10 and 12 hours a day," said Sgt. 1st Class Isaza. "In the beginning, we were working 16 to 18 hours a day. We would start at 2 a.m. and be up until 10 p.m. Breakfast usually starts around 2 a.m. unless it's a steak meal, then we have to start at midnight because it takes so long."

However, the cooks of 1st HBCT are motivated and prepared for the

"Cooking has always been a passion for me," said Pfc. Lister St. Rose, Headquarters Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion. "So when I was offered the oppor-

tunity to cook, I jumped right in. It's more challenging out here. We have a lot less space and people, so we have to prep a lot earlier because there is a lot of food to put out for a lot of people."

The elements also posed a challenge for the cooks in the Mojave Desert, where sandstorms and high winds are considered every day occurrences.

"(Cooking out here is a) great preparation for deployment because 90 percent of the cooks assigned to



Private First Class Lister St. Rose, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd

BSB, and Sgt. David Long, HHC 3rd BSB, serve Soldiers on FOB King, a simulated FOB at the National Training Center, Oct. 11. the brigade have minimal experience when it

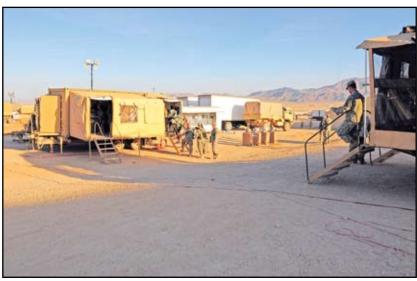
Isaza. "So if we are faced with that challenge, I believe that this will be a very beneficial exercise Although berated by the elements and working

comes to cooking in the desert," said Sgt. 1st Class

odd schedules, the cooks of 1st HBCT strive for perfection.

"I've done this for 17 years, and I still get the same joy out of someone coming up and telling me they enjoyed their meal as I did back when I was a young guy," said Sgt. 1st Class Isaza. "That's what we all strive for; no cook wants to put out a bad meal. At the end of the day, if the Soldiers are happy, then we're happy."

Soldiers of 1st HBCT walk in and out of the old Mobile Kitchen Trailer and the newer Containerized Kitchen, Oct. 11, on Forward Operating Base King, a simulated FOB at the National Training Center.



Community Mayors' Minute

Nicci Frederick Community Liaison Office

Every month, Balfour Beatty Communities hosts special events residents their called Neighborhood Huddles. The time and locations vary, but are always announced well in advance in the **Balfour Beatty Communities section** of the Frontline newspaper as well as on their Web site.

Neighborhood Huddles are opportunities for Balfour Beatty Communities personnel to meet their residents and for residents to meet their neighbors in the commu-

nity. It is also a chance to discuss

community better as a whole. Balfour Beatty Communities wel-

issues and ideas on how to make the

come feedback from all their residents and need your ideas and suggestions to continually improve the quality of life for residents living on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. In addition to Balfour Beatty

Communities personnel, Neighborhood Huddles are often attended by some of your

Community Mayors. It's a great chance to meet them. Plus, a representative from the Community

Liaison is usually present as well. Be sure to take advantage of this

valuable resource! Providing feedback and creating a stronger bond with your neighbors can help make living in one of the on-post neighborhoods an even better experience. Don't be shy, come say hi!

Also don't forget to check out some of the many other neighbor-Communities offer. For example,

hood events that Balfour Beatty last month, they hosted events such as a puppet show, S'mores making, jump roping and a Halloween Contest. Events are always posted well in advance on their Web site

and in the Frontline newspaper.

For more information about

Neighborhood Huddles, contact

Coordinator, at 408-2478 ahumphries@bbcgrp.com If you would like to serve in the

Amber Humphries, LifeWorks

Community Mayors program or need to contact your local Community Mayor, just give us a call or send an e-mail, and we'll get you the information that you need. The point of contact is Nicci Frederick, Community Liaison, 797-9717, nichole.frederick1@conus. army.mil. You can also find a wealth of helpful information for community members on our Facebook page at http://companies.to/fshaaf_clo or follow our Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/fshaaf_clo.

JUDGE: End of the year tax planning and IRS scams

Capt. Stephanie Nestor Legal Assistance Office

Judge, why are you talking about taxes? Its only November!

 A_{ullet}^{ullet} Most tax professionals will advise you to take a look at your tax situation before the end of the year. There are things you can do in November and December that can affect your tax return. If you wait until January 1, you're already too late.

What can I do to help my tax situation?

 A^{ullet}_{ullet} 1. You can sell some stock. What?! Sell stock?! Sure, sell some loser stocks that you won't miss. You can use your losses to wipe out all your realized capital gains for the year, plus an additional \$3,000 (\$1,500 for married filing separately) of regular income. Remember to avoid a wash sale — buying the same security within 30 days before or after you sell shares of the same stock. You won't be allowed to take the loss. If your realized losses for the year are over \$3,000, you might want to sell enough

winners to get back to that \$3,000 magic number.

2. You can make additional retirement plan contribu-

a. Maximize your 401k, 403b, or TSP contributions. The maximum amount that can be contributed in 2009 is \$16,500, or \$22,000 if you are over age 50.

b. Contribute to an IRA. If you qualify, you may be able to deduct up to \$5,000 of contributions.

c. If you are self-employed, consider contributing to a self-employed retirement plan like a SEP IRA, Solo 401k, SIMPLE Plan or Keogh Plan.

3. You can buy a home. Congress passed a first time home buyer credit good for up to \$8,000 for married filing jointly and \$4,000 for other filing status. To qualify for the credit in 2009, you must not have purchased a home within the previous three years and you must meet certain income requirements. The home must be your principal residence and you must close on the purchase before April 30, 2010.

4. You can buy a new car. New car buyers may be eligible to write off state and local sales tax from a new car purchased in 2009. Single tax filwho earn less than \$125,000 and joint filers who earn less than \$250,000 are eligible. You don't need to itemize your taxes to take advantage of this deduction.

5. You can get organized. If you own a business, you should be categorizing your expenses. If you haven't been, now is the time to start organizing and categorizing receipts. Look at your upcoming expenses and see if you can make any purchases before the end of the year to increase your business deduc-

6. You can make a donation. Many people already choose to make donations of property or cash around the holidays. Be sure to get receipts for anything you wish to deduct; a few years ago the IRS tightened their rules concerning documentation required to prove donations. If you give regularly, consider making some of your 2010 donations at the end of 2009.

7. Consider your medical expenses. Medical expenses that exceed 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income are deductible. Health insurance premiums that are paid with post-tax dollars can count toward this deduction. If you're close to the 7.5 percent limit, you might be able to make some more medical related purchases (e.g. over the counter medicines) and become eligible for the deduction.

8. You can prepay certain

taxes. If your deductions include property taxes, and state/local income taxes, you may be able to prepay your taxes due early in 2010 in December 2009. In many counties, property taxes are paid six months in arrears. You can choose to pay your 2009 property taxes early, in December 2009, increasing your itemized deductions. For state and local taxes, if you make quarterly estimated tax payments consider paying your final estimated payment a little early. Usually, the final payment for 2009 is due in January 2010. By making the final payment in December 2009, you can take the deduction this year.

Judge, I just got an e-mail from the IRS telling me that I am owed a stimulus payment. I haven't heard anything about another payment. Is this real?

 A^{ullet} We received an e-mail claiming it is from the IRS, even if it includes the IRS logo, it is probably a fake. Some common tricks used include using the IRS logo, using whole selections of text from the IRS Web site, a fake "from" address that contains IRS, a fake "from" address that contains .gov links to forms with numbers similar to those used

by the IRS. There is also a "Where's My Refund?" e-mail that goes around every year. That one asks you to follow a link, put in your social security number and credit card information. Once you have filed your return, please access "Where's My Refund?" only through www.irs.gov. You will need you social security number or tax ID number, your filing status and your refund amount.

Second, the IRS will not ask you for personal information. The last round of stimulus checks that went out were sent the same way you received you last refund. If you had your refund direct deposited, you received your stimulus check via direct deposit. If you received a paper check for your refund, you received your stimulus payment via paper check. Never follow links in emails to update your information with the IRS. The IRS has form 8822 just for that purpose. It can be downloaded for www.

First, the IRS does not communicate with people by e-mail or telephone.

If you have questions about taxes or possible scams, please contact your Legal Assistance Office. At Fort Stewart, call (912) 767-8809 or (912) 767-8819. At Hunter, call (912) 315-5115.

Notice of availability Environmental assessment and Draft finding of No Significant Impact

Directorate of Public Works

To open and operate new borrow pits to support D-8 Range construction projects on Fort Stewart, Ga.

To ensure resident, visiting, and future realigning Soldiers fully meet all predeployment training requirements, Fort Stewart must build additional training facilities and/or upgrade existing ones. Fort Stewart needs fill dirt required to construct three pending ranges on the installation: the Sniper Field Fire Range, Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range, and Known Distance Range. There are many existing, open borrow pits on post; however, most of these pits are too far from the proposed action to be operationally feasible. Some of these existing pits are also of the wrong soil type. For these reasons, the preferred alternative is to open three new borrow pits near these ranges dedicated solely to their construction.

The Environmental Assessment addresses the potential impacts to environmental and socioeconomic resources. The Environmental Assessment, resulting in a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact, indicates that no significant adverse impacts would result from the proposed action. A copy of the Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact will be available for public review from Nov. 20 through Dec. 20 at the public libraries listed below. All public review comments must be received no later than Dec. 20.

1st Lt. George P. Hays Library, build-

ing 411, 316 Lindquist Rd., Fort Stewart,

Mon. – Thurs., 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fri., closed Sat. - Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Hunter Army Airfield Post Library, building 1290, 165 Markwell Street, Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.

Mon. - Thurs., 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fri. - Sun., closed

Liberty County Public Library, 236 Memorial Drive, Hinesville, Ga.

Mon. – Thurs., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fri. – Sat., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sun., 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Mall Branch Library, 7 Mall Annex,

Savannah, Ga.

Mon. – Thurs., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fri. – Sat., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sun., 2-6 p.m.

Southwest Chatham Branch Library, 14097 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Ga.

Mon. closed Tues. and Thurs. 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wed., Fri.-Sun. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Request all comments be mailed to the following address:

> Chief, Environmental Division (Thomas C. Fry) Directorate of Public Works 1550 Frank Cochran Dr., Bldg. 1137 Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314-4927

LEGAL NOTICE

Anyone having claims against, or who is Officer Michael Montgomery, B Co., 3rd Bn., 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact Capt. Steve Bozovich, C Co., 3rd Bn., 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, (912) 315-8814.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. Nickolas** Mueller, B Co., 3rd Bn., 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact Chief Warrant Officer Brandon Phillips, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, (912) 315-8781.

Anyone having claims against, or who indebted to the estate of Chief Warrant is indebted to the estate of Sgt. Josue Hernandez-Chavez, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact Chief Warrant Officer Wayne Burtis, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, (912) 315-8385.

> Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of Chief Warrant Officer Niall Lyons, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Galemore, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, (912) 315-8836.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of Staff Sqt. Shawn McNabb, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact Chief Warrant Officer Tracy Flewellen, 160th SOAR (A), Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, (912) 315-7609.

Anyone having any claims, or who is indebted to the estate of Staff Sgt. James R. Stright of C Co., 3/160th SOAR (A) should contact the Summary Court Officer, Capt. Robert Harless via the SDO at (912) 315-7680.

TOW TO GO

It's a partnership between AAA Auto Club South & Budweiser, FREE and open to all, and it is 100% confidential. Call 1=800=AAA=HELP -the call will be directed to an ERS Call Center The AAA tow truck takes the vehicle and the driver safely home. Tickets are not required to participate in program.

Purpose: This program is designed to protect both the intoxicated driver and the motoring public from avoidable car crashes.

Coverage Areas: Tow to Go program is available throughout Florida and in Metro Atlanta, Savannah, and Metro Nashville Thanksgiving through New Year's Day Weekend,

2009 Tow to Go Holiday Schedule. Since its inception in 1998, "Tow to Go" has safely removed more than 8,600 drunk drivers from the roads and is celebrating its 10-year anniversary.

> Sponsored by the Installation Safety Office **767-7880**

The Fort Stewart Police investigations section is looking for any information that leads to the identification of the individual(s) responsible for the theft of a 2004 white Dodge Ram 1500 (GA LP #asf057), and a grey Dixie Chopper lawn mower.

The theft occurred on Nov. 10, at building 8039, the AFS Maintenance facility. If you have any information please contact Det. Dindinger at (912) 767-5255 or by e-mail at david.p.dindinger@conus.army.mil.





STEWART-HUNTER BRIEFS

Weekend Dining Facility hours posted

The Fort Stewart weekend dining facility for Nov. 26-29 is Raider Dining Facility, building 642. Fort Stewart dining facility weekend serving hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for brunch, and 3:30-5:30 p.m. for supper. The Hunter Army Airfield Weekend dining facility for Nov. 26-29 is the 1/75 Ranger Dining Facility, building 110. Hunter Army Airfield dining facility weekend serving hours are 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for brunch, and 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. for supper.

The Warrior Transition Battalion Dining Facility, building 12902/02 in the National Guard training area is scheduled to be closed Nov 26-29.

STEWART -

Bridges closed

Effective Nov. 30, bridges 3 and 4 (vicinity MR 381290) will be closed for repair. This repair will close Fort Stewart Road 40 (tank trail) from north of the intersection with FS 38 vicinity of the Rail Marshaling Area to Georgia Highway 144 West. This closure will last until March 3, 2010, or until repairs are completed.

Newman parking lot closing

Newman Fitness Center has begun parking lot renovation. Motorists are encouraged to be alert to changes in parking. Construction will be in two phases to accommodate parking and access to building. For more information, call Teddy Kelley at 767-0226.

Apprenticeship program opens

The Fort Stewart HIRED! Apprenticeship Program is hosting its "Newbie" Session for candidates for the January Term. If you or a teen (15 - 18) that you know is interested in attending, please call 767 - 4494 and tell us, "I WANT TO GET HIRED!"

Who: HIRED!

What: Newbie Session; Prerequisites for New Candidates

andidates Date: Dec. 12

Time: 12 to 7 p.m.

Location: Bryan Village Youth Center

RSVP: Required

Why: In order for teens to be accepted into HIRED, they must complete these prerequisites.

East 7th Street closed

East 7th St. between French Rd. and Niles Ave. is closed due to the construction of the new Soldier Family Assistance Center.

Detour signs and traffic control devices will be displayed for the duration of the construction. Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area to minimize traffic congestion and to be alert to changes in traffic patterns around the area. Call 228-7451 for more information.

HUNTER -

Hunter gas kiosk has new hours

A new gas kiosk is now open at Hunter, located at 8804 S. Perimeter Rd., by Rio Gate. Hours of operation are: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday; and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

Tuttle optometry clinic open

Having problems reading this? Then maybe you are one of 1,000 who need to pick-up your glasses at the Tuttle Army Health Clinic Optometry Clinic.

If you have received a phone call from Tuttle's Optometry Clinic stating that your glasses/inserts are ready, simply stop-by and pick-up weekdays after 1 p.m. If you need to inquire about your glasses, call after 1 p.m.

Balfour Beatty Communities

Cell Phones available for Soldiers

Help Soldiers overseas call home. By donating any old cell phone, you can help provide calling cards for Soldiers serving overseas.

The phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays Cell Phones for Soldiers for each donated phone—enough to provide an hour of talk time to Soldiers abroad. Drop-off boxes are located at Balfour Beatty Communities Liberty Woods Leasing Office and the Southern Oaks Community Center at Fort Stewart, and Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office and the New Savannah/New Callaway Community Center at Hunter.

Care and Share food drive slated

Help others in need have a happy Thanksgiving. Drop off non-perishable items that can be donated to a local charity to be made into food baskets for Families in need.

There will be drop off boxes at Balfour Beatty Communities Liberty Woods Leasing Office and the Southern Oaks Community Center at Fort Stewart, and at at Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office and the New Savannah/New Callaway Community Center at Hunter through Friday.

For more information about events, contact your LifeWorks Coordinator, Amber Humphries at 408-2478 or ahumphries@bbcgrp.com.



Hunter Burger King: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Blimpie's: Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Saturday - Sunday

WTU Shoppette: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed on holidays, open on training holidays

Godfather's Pizza: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday

Manchu Wok: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.

to 4 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday

Hunter Popeye's: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bryan Village Shoppette: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Troop Brigade: Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Hospital Shoppette: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; closed on holidays and training holidays

Main Shoppette: Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday 9-10 a.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Hunter Gas Kiosk: Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Stewart Popeye's: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Stewart MCSS: Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday

For more information, please call (912) 876-8880.

Education Matters

College classes open to all

The upcoming Fall II term dates both on-post and distance learning classes are listed below. Some courses are offered during the day. Classes are open to both the military and civilian communities. Please contact the college directly for course schedules and enrollment information.

Central Texas College – Jan. 11-March 5; Stewart, 767-2070; Hunter, 315-4090

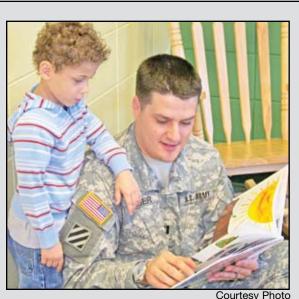
Columbia College – Jan. 11-March 6; Stewart, 767-5336; Hunter, 352-8635

Embry Riddle – Jan. 11-March 14; Stewart, 767-3930;

Hunter, 352-5252 Webster University – Jan. 4-March 4; Stewart, 767-

5357; Hunter, 354-0033

Savannah Tech College – Jan. 6-March 19; Stewart, 408-2430



Courtesy Photo

2/7 Inf Regt Soldiers Read for the Record

On Oct. 8, Liberty County Pre-K participated in the national event, "Read for the Record." The school's military partner, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, sent Soldiers to serve as guest readers for the event. Pictured above is Capt. Marcus Seiser with student Jordan King reading this year's book, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle. During the event, 382 of our students listened to the selected story and

were counted toward the world record.

Educational funding available to spouses

The Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts Program, "MyCAA" is for military spouses of active duty and activated Guard and Reserve servicemembers.

This centralized, virtual program provides counseling and funding up to \$6,000, to assist with licensure, certification or education opportunities leading to portable employment opportunities; trade programs or college degrees. You may use the school of your choice, either selecting classroom or on-line delivery. All on-post and most area schools participate.

This process is all done on-line and by phone with Military One Source 1-800-342-9647. For complete details and to initiate an account, click on https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa.

Columbia College offers discount

Spouses of military personnel can take their first classroom course (in-seat) free while they complete their financial aid paperwork and enrollment procedures with Columbia College. The Active Duty Spouse does not have to be taking classes with Columbia College. In addition, they will be granted a 20 percent discount for all future classes held at the education center.

Three colleges to visit Representatives from th

Representatives from three institutions of higher learning will be on hand the first part of December at the Sgt.1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center lobby to meet with current or prospective students.

Bruce Granai, admissions representative with National

Training's Truck Driver and Heavy Equipment Operator School, will be present from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dec. 2, to promote the school's certification programs. You may reach him in advance at (800) 488-7364 ext. 245 or (904) 307-6952, or by going to www.truckschool.com or www.earthmoverschool.com.

On Dec. 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., a representative from

Troy University will show you their undergraduate and graduate on-line programs for the upcoming college term. You may reach Amber Robinson by calling 921-1164 or *aarobinson@troy.edu*. See savannah.troy.edu for additional information on the University and its programs.

South University in Savannah is starting an accelerat-

South University in Savannah is starting an accelerated Masters of Business Administration program. This 12-month program is available to anyone that has a bachelor degree. Classes are held two Saturdays a month. If interested, meet with Amy Cordes on Dec. 7, any time between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more details, contact her

at acordes@southuniversity.edu or call (912) 433-1495.

Green to Gold briefings slatedThe Green-to-Gold scholarship sessions are held at

the installation education centers every month at 2 p.m. Upcoming briefings are on Dec. 2 at Fort Stewart, and Dec.16 at Hunter.

Source available for Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33, is a non-contributory benefit (no up-front payment required by Soldiers) for those who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. The Veterans Administration Web site at *www. gibill.va.gov* provides in-depth eligibility information and a link to the on-line application. It also includes all information and steps concerning transferability to Family Members.

Individuals currently eligible for benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty or other similar programs, can continue under their program or make the decision to transfer to the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Since the choice is irrevocable, it will not be possible to switch back to the previous VA benefit program. It is recommended that you research the differences by clicking on the "More About the Post-9/11 GI Bill" bar and then selecting the benefit comparison chart link. Also try www.gibill.va.gov/CH33Estimator, which calculates the eligible tuition, fees and housing allowance for your zip code.If you have questions after exploring the Web site, call 888-442-4551.

E-mail counselor-support made available

Need to reach an Army education counselor, even while deployed? Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield education centers offer a one-stop e-mail address to help. Just contact them via e-mail at stewcounselor@conus.army.mil.

Attend Classes from home Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Worldwide is

offering a new delivery method called EagleVision Home. It provides the working adult an opportunity to attend classes, via the internet, on a personal computer without leaving home. Students and teachers have the luxury of meeting real-time regardless of their physical location. Classes begin each term with the next classes beginning Jan. 11. To learn which courses are available, contact the ERAU representatives: Hunter at 355-0644, and Stewart at 767-0339.

Take CLEP, DANTES examsCollege Level Examination Program and DANTES

Subject Standardized Tests are available on post. Call Columbia College at 767-7558 for more information and testing dates. The exams are free for military personnel. CLEP tests are \$92 and DSSTs are \$100 for non-military examinees.

421st tree dedicated at Warriors Walk

Jennifer Hartwig

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

A good man, a good husband, a good father, and a

Those were the words used to describe Staff Sgt. Christopher M. Rudzinski by his battalion commander at the tree dedication ceremony in his honor at Warriors Walk, Nov. 19.

Staff Sergeant Rudzinski, 28, of the 293rd Military Police Company, 385th MP Battalion, was killed near Kandahar, Afghanistan, Oct. 16, of wounds suffered when his vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive

The native of Rantoul, Ill. is survived by his wife, Caroline, and his son, Ryan, 1.

On a mild, cloudy fall morning at Fort Stewart, Staff Sgt. Rudzinski's name was committed to granite stone and placed in front of an Eastern Redbud, the 421st such tree at Warriors Walk.

"Chris had a servant's heart," said Brig. Gen. Jeffrey E. Phillips, deputy commanding general-rear, during the ceremony. "We remember him as a volunteer, a leader, an American Soldier, and we honor him."

Staff Sergeant Rudzinski joined the military at the age of 17, a third-generation Soldier who was sworn in by his father, Col. Michael Rudzinski, a 2003 Iraqi war veteran.

Staff Sergeant Rudzinski started out as an armor crewman, serving in Kosovo in 1999 and deploying to Iraq in 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In August 2004, he reclassified as a military police officer and deployed to Iraq in 2006, where he led a team of MPs that mentored and trained Iraqi Police. In March, Staff Sgt. Rudzinski was assigned to the 293rd MP Co. and deployed to Afghanistan in July.

"You never get used to it – never," said Lt. Col. Michael C. Henshaw, commander, 385th MP Bn., of the memorial. "And quite frankly, I hope I never do get used to this. Of course, I'd love it if I never had to attend one of these again. It is never fun to watch a Family grieve."

In addition to Caroline, Ryan and Col. Rudzinski, there were five other Family Members in attendance, as well as hundreds of member of Staff Sgt. Rudzinski's other Family – his fellow Soldiers.

"We really have two Families here," said Brig. Gen. Phillips. "The Family constituted by our Soldiers, and the Family constituted by those who stand with them."

After the speakers, including Brig. Gen. Phillips and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashman, command sergeant major-rear, the granite plaque was unveiled and the Rudzinski Family stood for a receiving line, which wound down and around Warriors Walk.

"I cried today, and I cried when I got the phone call," Lt. Col. Henshaw admitted.

Though the solemn ceremony was filled with tears, it was fitting tribute to a Soldier who gave his all for his country with no expectation of gratitude.

"I think the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Staff Sgt. Rudzinski is duty," Lt. Col. Henshaw said. "He served four combat tours... I wish people like Staff Sgt. Rudzinski were on the cover of the newspapers; what he stood for is so much more important than the celebrities on the magazines."

Staff Sergeant Rudzinski was a decorated noncommissioned officer, his awards including the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Army Commendation Medal.

honor isn't to commemorate his death; it is to cele-

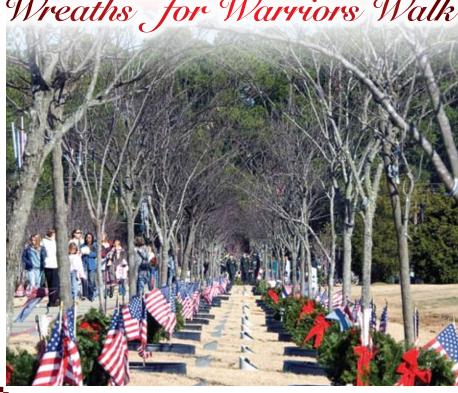
brate his life, said his commander.

"This ceremony is important," Lt. Col. Henshaw said. "These trees symbolize the lives of these Soldiers. It is a celebration of life instead of death—these trees will continue to grow."



The 421st Eastern Redbud tree was dedicated at Warriors Walk to Staff Sgt. Christopher M. Rudzinski, 293rd MP Co., 385th MP Bn., at a Tree Dedication The planting of the tree in Staff Sgt. Rudzinski's Ceremony, Nov. 19. Staff Sergeant Rudzinski was killed in Afghanistan in October.

Wreaths for Warriors Walk



Cottrell Field on two sides, and consists of three meandering sidewalks and 421 Eastern Redbud trees.

Each tree represents a 3rd Infantry Division Soldier who has made the ultimate sacrifice defending our nation's freedom. A granite marker identifies each Soldier and a single spotlight illuminates skyward, giving the cool night air a respective glow. Family and friends visit this hallowed ground, leaving flowers and pictures and mementoes reflecting a remembrance of love, which will never fade.

Wreaths for Warriors Walk, a local nonprofit organization comprised of Fort Stewart employees, veterans and local volunteers, was founded in 2007 with the goal of placing a holiday wreath at each of the trees along Warriors Walk. In 2007, about 500 people attended the inaugural event. In 2008, an estimated 3,000 people,

Warriors Walk is the Fort Stewart including 200 Family Members of fall-living memorial that borders en Soldiers, attended the secondannual ceremony.

> At noon on Dec. 12, Wreaths for Warriors Walk will hold the 3rd Annual Wreath Ceremony to honor each of these fallen heroes. The ceremony will begin with a moment of silence, which coincides with the national wreath laying ceremony in Arlington Cemetery. The national anthem will resonate among the trees and guest speakers will commemorate this special day. The somber, reflective ceremony will culminate with Family Members, fellow Soldiers, friends and guests placing individual wreaths at the base of each and every one of the 421 trees.

> To sponsor a wreath for \$15, to volunteer or for more information, visit the event Web site at www.w4ww.org. You can also hear the specially arranged song "400 Names at Warriors Walk" and see a video set to the Tim McGraw song, "If You're Reading This."

1st HBCT Soldier receives Purple Heart



Spc. Jared Eastman, 1st HBCT Public Affairs

Brigadier General Jeffrey Phillips, deputy commanding general-rear, pins the Purple Heart medal on Spc. Noah Mutrie of Battery B, 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team at Marne Garden, Nov. 19. Specialist Mutrie received the Purple Heart for wounds he sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his patrol in Baquba, Iraq, on May 10, 2008.

CDC



Photos by Elise Van Pool

ABOVE: Members of the Fort Stewart Command Team, children from the new Child Development Center, and their parents cut the ribbon, officially marking the grand opening of Fort Stewart's newest CDC. From left to right: Brigadier General Jeffrey Phillips, deputy commanding general-rear; Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashman, command sergeant major-rear; Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin, Stewart-Hunter garrison command sergeant major; Sgt. Robert Solesbee, his wife Amanda, and their daughter, Paige; Capt. Louis Cooke, his wife Molly and their children, Landon and Benjamin; Evelyn R. Garcia, Children Youth Services Family Center Director; Command Sgt. Maj. McArthur Dixon, Division Special Troops Battalion command sergeant major; Col. Kevin Milton, Stewart-Hunter garrison commander;

RIGHT: Master Sergeant Adrienne Kelley drops off her daughter, Maleah, at the new child development center.

from Page 1A

"It's a great facility." Said Evelyn R. Garcia, Children Youth Services Family Center Director. She said the staff at the new facility make a great team, and they work hard to ensure the safety and education of all the children who attend.

Brigadier General Jeffrey Phillips, deputy commanding general-rear, said the new facility would significantly increase child care capacity. He went on to say that while the cost of the new center, \$6.8 million, seems high, it will offer great value to Soldiers who will be assured that they children are receiving good care.

Master Sergeant Adrienne Kelley, whose daughter, Maleah, is one of the center's first children. "(The new CDC is) very convenient. I come on my lunch hour (to visit her daughter). She (Maleah) loves it."

The new CDC will also be the site of a new Army program for four year olds, called Strong Beginnings.

The goal of the program is to better prepare students to entering kindergarten and elementary school.

LESSONS

from Page 1A

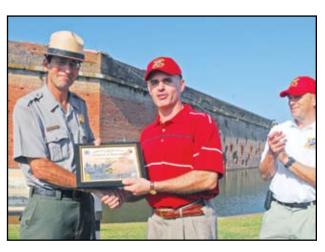
They talked about the rifled cannon, which the Union army used to compel surrender of Confederates inside the brick fort, and they discussed the evolution of Army weaponry.

Lieutenant Colonel LaPorte said history is important so that Soldiers understand their lineage and prevent making the same mistakes of the past.

First Sergeant Jack Glasscock, acting command sergeant major for the Patriot Battalion, added that lessons learned from previous battles help today's leaders in their decision making process.

"We have to be flexible, adaptive leaders on today's ever-changing battlefield," he said.

The critical thinking exercise at Fort Pulaski was the battalion's second staff ride; the first was to Fort McAllister in July. The Patriot leaders plan to apply lessons learned from the Battle of Chickamauga to their training schedule with a visit to the Tennesseebased fort next year.



Staff Sgt. Tanya Polk, 4th IBCT Public Affairs

Lieutenant Colonel Ryan LaPorte (left), 1/76 FA commander, awards Mike Weinstein, Fort Pulaski National Monument Park Ranger, a certificate of appreciation, during the Patriot Battalion's second staff ride, Nov. 20, as 1st Sgt. Jack Glasscock, 1/76 FA acting command sergeant major, looks on. The field artillery battalion applied lessons learned from the 1862 Battle of Fort Pulaski to today's era of persistent conflict.

HOLIDAY MAILING DEADLINES

DESTINATION APO/FPO AE 090- 092	EXPRESS Dec. 18	1st CLASS Dec. 11	PRIORITY Dec. 11	PAL Dec. 4	SAM Friday	PARCEL POST
APO/FPO AE 093	N/A	Dec. 4	Dec. 4	Dec. 1	Past	The deadline for sending Parcel Post items in for the holi- days has past.
APO/FPO AE 094-098	Dec. 18	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Friday	
APO/FPO AE 340	Dec. 18	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Friday	
APO/FPO AE 962-966	Dec. 18	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Friday	

EMMS: Express Mail Military Service is available to selected post offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO of address.

PAL: PAL is a service that provides air transporta-

tion for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

SAM: SAM parcels are paid at Parcel Post postage rate of postage maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

For more Stewart - Hunter community events check out the December **Quality Time** now available!

For upcoming holiday events, check out FMWR briefs on page 1B, 3B